

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.	:	09/474,783	Confirmation No.:	2707
Applicant	:	Donald K. Newell et al.		
Filed	:	December 30, 1999		
TC/A.U.	:	2424		
Examiner	:	Annan Q. Shang		
Docket No.	:	P6929/1020P6929		
Customer No. :		57035		

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 3, 2012 (hereinafter, "the Office Action"), with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 3, 2012, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.